(c) to (e) The Government had constituted Fifth Technical Group on 19.3.2001 to recommend buffer norms for stocking of food grains for the 10th Plan period and its recommendations were considered at the time of taking decision at (a) above.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Oilseeds Production Programme in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh

†4641. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are promoting the production of oilseeds in the country;

(b) if so, the special aid provided to Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh under Centrally sponsored oilseeds production programme during 2004-05 and the extent of aid likely to be provided during 2005-06; and

(c) the names of pulses, the production of which is likely to increase and the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds producing States including Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh for increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and pulses in the country. The assistance provided to Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh during 2004-05 and proposed allocation for the year 2005-06 under ISOPOM are given below:-

State	2004-05 (Rs. in lakhs)	2005-06 (Rs. in lakhs)
Chhattisgarh	625.00	400.00
Madhya Pradesh	2925.00	2400.00

(d) Arhar, gram, urd, moong, lentil, lathyrus etc. are the major pulse crops cultivated in the country. The production of pulses during 2003-04 and 2004-05 has been estimated at 14.94 million tonnes and 14.01 million tonnes, respectively. A growth rate of 3 per cent per annum has been envisaged in pulses production during the 10th Plan period. However, the production of pulse crops largely depends on favourable weather conditions, as these crops are mostly cultivated in rainfed areas.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.